

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State AS 498 TELEGRAM

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FM USICA/BUEHOS AIRES.  
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY  
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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2

USICA FOR PGM/RC,AR  
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1.- AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST. FOUR MONDAY NEWSPAPERS LEAD WITH UGANDA SITUATION. CLARIN BANNERS "U.S. STARTS MILITARY AID TO EGYPT." NACION HEADLINES "FIGHTING STILL CONTINUING IN UGANDA'S CAPITAL." PRENS, "TANZANIAN SIEGE OF KAMPALA CONTINUES." OPINION, "IDI AMIN IS SURROUNDED IN KAMPALA." HERALD, "KAMPALA SUBURBS SHELLED BY REBELS." NACION COENT INSIDE SAYS "THE LAST ACT OF A TRAGIC FARCE" IS BEING PLAYED AND PREDICTS "AMIN WILL BE DEFEATED NEAR THE CLOSE OF THE WEEK."  
NACION SUNDAY EDITORIAL SAID FOLLOWING THE EGYPT-ISRAEL TREATY PROGRESS TOWARDS A FULLY ENFORCED PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST SHOULD NOT BE TOO DIFFICULT. "DIRECT DEALING PROVED TO BE AN EXCELLENT METHOD," IS SAID, AND AS A RESULT "A THIN RAY OF LIGHT SHINES ON A FUTURE WHICH STILL REMAINS IN THE DARK."

2.- SALT 2. PRENSA AND OPINION CARRY WIRE SERVICE REPORTS OF BRZEZINSKI STATEMENT TO U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT. PRENSA HAS UPI STORY HEADED "THE INCONVENIENCE OF USING FORCE." OPINION HAS AFP REPORT WHICH STRESSES "U.S. WILL NOT HESITATE TO USE FORCE," HEADED "WASHINGTON WILL PROTECT ITS INTERESTS WITH FORCE."

3.- NUCLEAR ENERGY. PRENSA EDITORIAL SUNDAY INDICATED CONCURRENCE WITH ARGENTINA'S NUCLEAR POLICY AS OUTLINED BY GOA OFFICIALS. SAYS "NEVERTHELESS, IN THE LIGHT OF THE SERIOUS ACCIDENT IN PENNSYLVANIA, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO USE EXTREME CAUTION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM. THE DRAMATIC EXPERIENCE UNDERGONE BY THE SCIENTIFICALLY AND TECHNOLOGICALLY MOST ADVANCED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD REVEALS THE RISKS AND DANGERS INVOLVED IN HANDLING NUCLEAR MATERIAL." HERALD EDITORIAL SATURDAY COMMENTED THAT AEC CHAIRMAN CASTRO MADERO "HAS REPORTEDLY STATED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE THREE MILE ISLAND PLANT ACCIDENT WAS BLOWN OUT OF ALL PROPORTION BY THE ANTI-NUCLEAR LOBBYISTS.... HE MAY, OF COURSE, BE RIGHT.... NEVERTHELESS, HIS REMARKS.... ARE UNLIKELY TO HELP THE ARGENTINE NUCLEAR CAUSE WHICH HAS PROGRESSED SO IMPRESSIVELY UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF BLOCKING THE TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, FROM ADVANCED NATIONS TO OTHERS IS THE FEAR, GENUINE OR SIMULATED, THAT OFFICIALS IN TECHNOLOGICALLY LAGGING NATIONS WILL BE FAR TOO CASUAL IN THEIR APPROACH TO SAFETY."  
NACION SUNDAY REPORTED "ARGENTINA MAY REJECT IAEA AID" ON BASIS OF NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS STORY WITH STATEMENT BY EAC CHAIRMAN CASTRO MADERO. HE SAID, ACCORDING TO STORY, THAT "ARGENTINA MAY DECIDE TO GIVE UP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IT RECEIVES FROM INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION, ALTHOUGH WILL NOT WITHDRAW

FROM IT. OTHER PAPERS HAD SIMILAR STORIES.

4. - U.S. - ARGENTINE RELATIONS. NACION SUNDAY POLITICAL COLUMN NOTES THAT "GOA STILL DOES NOT HAVE AN IDEAL CANDIDATE TO REPLACE AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL." ADDS THAT "THE MILITARY PREFERENCES TO WATCH THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC AFFAIRS DURING APRIL, MAY AND JUNE, BEFORE MAKING A FINAL DECISION ON WHO WILL BE THE NEXT ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO U.S."  
THE COLUMN ALSO INDICATES THAT U.S. WOULD LIKE TO SEE ARGENTINE MOVE CLOSER TOWARDS PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC FIELDS, BUT ARGENTINA DOES NOT WANT TO STRAIN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE USSR BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SOVIET-ARGENTINE TRADE AND "THE DISCREET WAY IN WHICH THE SOVIETS VOTED AT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON MATTERS WHICH WERE EMBARRASSING FOR ARGENTINA."

5.- HUMAN RIGHTS. PRENSA EDITORIAL MONDAY SAID "EVIDENTLY" THE ATTEMPT BY A FEDERAL POLICEMAN TO INTIMIDATE EL LITORAL OF CORRIENTES (SEE FRIDAY MESSAGE) WAS EQUIVALENT TO CURBING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS. PRENSA DEPLORES THE INCIDENT "BECAUSE IT IS IN A CLASS WITH THOSE WHICH ARE USED OVERSEAS TO PROMOTE THE ANTI-ARGENTINE CAMPAIGN THAT IS STILL UNDER WAY," AND CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION BY THE INTERIOR MINISTRY.

EOT

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2

PRENSA REPORTS AN UNNAMED TERRORIST WHO SURRENDERED OF HIS OWN WILL WAS SENTENCED TO A YEAR AND EIGHT MONTHS IN JAIL BY A FEDERAL COURT IN ROSARIO. HE WAS A MEMBER OF A TROTSKYIST GROUP CALLING ITSELF "ORGANIZACION COMUNISTA PODER OBRERO." HERALD SUNDAY COVERED PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY MEMBERS OF NEW YORK BAR ASSOCIATION NOTING THEY WERE "PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH THE CASES OF 99 ARGENTINE LAWYERS DETAINED WITHOUT CHARGES AND A FURTHER 92 WHO HAVE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT TRACE DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS." ADDED THAT THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE RODRIGUEZ VARELA HAD RECEIVED A LIST FROM THE GROUP AND "PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT." THE HERALD CONTINUED: "ONE MEMBER OF THE GROUP, JUDGE MARVIN FRANKEL, HAD HOPED TO GET INTERIOR MINISTRY APPROVAL TO INTERVIEW JACOBO TIMERMAN, THE PUBLISHER WHO IS STILL UNDER HOUSE ARREST... THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, GRAL. A. HARGUINDEGUY, WAS NOT AVAILABLE, HOWEVER, TO PERMIT FRANKEL TO SEE TIMERMAN BEFORE THE GROUP'S RETURN TO THE U. S." HERALD MONDAY CARRIES USICA WF STORY "DERIAN: U. S. STRIKES RESPONSIVE CHORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS," ON EDITORIAL PAGE UNDER TITLE "HUMAN RIGHTS 'NOT PERFECT' IN U. S." WEEKEND PAPERS INDICATED 14 PERSONS HAD THEIR PEN DECREE REMOVED AND TWO OTHERS WERE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

*Changes*

6. - IDB STATEMENT. PRENSA SATURDAY CARRIED UPI COVERAGE OF LETTER FROM INTERAMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK PRESIDENT ANTONIO ORTIZ MENA TO SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL, "WARNING THE U. S. THAT HIS BANK WILL NOT ADMIT INTERFERENCE FROM ANY COUNTRY, NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL." CROSS

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